**THE BIG MALARKEY FESTIVAL**

**General information for libraries staff**

**26TH June – 2nd July 2017, East Park, Hull**

**Background info**

Hull Libraries & HCAL are establishing a new children’s literature festival, funded by the James Reckitt Library Trust and Hull City of Culture 2017. The festival is intended to become an annual event in the Hull festival calendar that will:

* **Celebrate children’s literature in all its forms**
* **Invite creativity through activities and workshops**
* **Promote the work of Hull libraries for children, schools and families**

**What is the festival?**

A one week festival celebrating children’s literature, bringing together writers, illustrators, cartoonists, performers, musicians and artists to a fantastical tented village for children inside East Park. There will be all kinds of tents for all kinds of activities, especially designed and programmed for children, schools and families including:

* **The Big Malarkey** – a large tent for author talks and performances
* **Digi Tent** – with laptops, for digital illustration, creative writing, animation and anything else digital that we come up with!
* **Make it, take it** – for 2D and 3D making activity
* **Live and Kicking** – for smaller performances, talks and workshops
* **Little Larkeys** – Under Fives’ area
* **Other assorted elements:** Waterstones bookshop, theatre and storytelling caravans, shadow puppetry and walkabouts

The week breaks down as follows:

**SCHOOLS PROGRAMME – Monday to Friday plus Book Awards**

**Monday 26 – Friday 30 June - Schools programme:** Half-day packages for schools KS1-KS3, including author talks and hands-on workshops in writing, play-making, illustration and 3D model-making/craft and digital art.

Four themes, one for each day *: Funny Bone, Cliffhanger, Jeopardy, Myth & Magic*

**Wednesday 28th June - James Reckitt Hull Children’s Book Award (KS2) :** Now in its 10th year, the book award brings together 400 children from Hull primary schools to choose the winning author from this year’s shortlist. To be held in the Big Malarkey Tent. **Site closed to general public.**

**PUBLIC PROGRAMME – Saturday and Sunday plus Weekday ‘Teatime Tasters’**

**Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd July - Family programme 10am – 5.30pm:** This will be the main public programme, and will feature drop-in workshops, author talks and book signings, performances and storytelling. Hull Carnival Arts will be there on Sunday to help children make costume/headdresses for the finale – a Storybook Ball with a live band.

***NB :*** On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday there will be a tea-time opening for the general public, from 3.30 – 5.30pm – weekday ‘tea-time tasters’ **(excluding Wednesday)**

**QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **MONDAY** | **TUESDAY** | **WEDNESDAY** | **THURSDAY** | **FRIDAY** | **SATURDAY** | **SUNDAY** |
| **SCHOOLS** | OPEN TO SCHOOLS 8.30-3.00 | | | | | **CLOSED TO SCHOOLS** | |
| **PUBLIC** | 3.30-5.30  TASTER | 3.30-5.30  TASTER | **CLOSED FOR BOOK AWARDS** | 3.30-5.30  TASTER | 3.30-5.30  TASTER | 10.00-5.30 FULL DAY | 10.00-5.30  FULL DAY |

**FESTIVAL CONTENT**

**There will be activities for all ages from the very young to 16.**

**The line-up is still evolving but confirmed artists so far are:**

**Author talks from** Jeremy Strong, A F Harrold, Steve Cole, Tanya Landman, Jamila Gavin, Nick Arnold, Akala and Julian Clary & David Roberts, Lydia Monks, Annabel Pitcher

**Poetry** withRob Gee, Simon Punrucker , Adisa, Park Bench Poets

**Puppetry** with Dark Horse Puppetry and Indigo Moon

**Performances/Storytelling**  from Discover Storytelling Centre (Dr Seuss), Just Soph, Mudpie Arts, Hekima, Broccolily, Hekima, Travelling Treasury and Karvan

**Movement/drama workshops** with Ten Foot Dance Company, Dave Windass

**Illustration** with Neill Cameron, Calvin Innes, Andy Sanders, Shoo Rayner, Hull School of Art & Design

**More to be confirmed!**

**Important info for the general public:**

**It’s a new festival and the programme isn’t complete just yet, so we can’t give out information, but we can confirm that:**

**The festival is FREE of charge however…**

**You will need a ticket for the weekend (1st & 2nd July):** these will be bookable via the Hull 2017 website **from 25th April.** The website will go live and the brochure will be launched on this day as well.

Hull Libraries staff will be able to assist customers who aren’t able to book tickets online – just come along to your nearest library.

The week day tea-time tasters **will not require a ticket (**26th, 27th, 29th, 30th June) – just turn up. *Note that the site is NOT open at tea-time for the public on Wednesday 28th June.*